Protection to street vendors

1149. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to bring an enactment to protect the interests of Street Vendors;

(b) if so, by when the relative Bill would be introduced in Parliament; and

(c) if not, what steps are going to be taken for their protection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Subject matter of street vending falls in the State List. As such, the Central Government has no jurisdiction to legislate on this subject.

(c) The Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation has formulated a National Policy on Urban Street Vendors in January 2004 with the objective to provide and promote a supportive environment for earning livelihood to the urban street vendors, as well as ensure absence of congestion & maintenance of hygiene in public spaces/streets. The national policy is only suggestive in nature and as such, circulated to the States/Union Territories Governments with the request to make suitable and appropriate adoption of it in the overall interest of the street vendors, with or without any changes to suit local conditions and also respecting any court decisions, which may impinge on the issue.

Scarcity of drinking water

1150. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of urban centres facing acute scarcity of drinking water; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to meet the scarcity of drinking water in those urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid $n the Table of the House.